

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 129096  
ORIGIN EUR-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MCT-01 /005 R

66011

DRAFTED BY:EUR/SOV:LWILLEMS

APPROVED BY:EUR/SOV:MGARRISON

DESIRED DIST:INS, M/CT, S

-----041059Z 067809 /13

R 040023Z JUN 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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FOLLOWING REPEAT CARACAS 5389 SENT ACTION SECSTATE 31 MAY.

QUOTE: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CARACAS 5389

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR, US, VE

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE DEPORTATION OF BOTH BRAZINSKAS TO VENEZUELA

1. EMBASSY NOTES DEPARTMENT ASSUMES THAT GOV WOULD BE  
DISPOSED TO ACCEPT PRANAS AND ALGIRDAS BRAZINSKAS SHOULD  
THEY BE DEPORTED BY USG. PRESUMABLY THIS ASSUMPTION IS  
BASED ON FACTS THAT (A) VENEZUELA ACCEPTED THEM IN 1976  
IN THE FULL KNOWLEDGE OF THEIR ANTECEDENTS  
AND (B) BOTH MEN WERE IN THE PROCESS OF OBTAINING RESIDENT  
STATUS IN VENEZUELA WHEN THEY LEFT FOR THE U.S. EMBASSY  
IS NOT SURE GOV WOULD TODAY WELCOME BACK THE BRAZINSKAS.

2. VENEZUELA HAS A TRADITION OF GRANTING ASYLUM TO THE  
POLITICALLY OPPRESSED. THIS IS A STRONGLY HELD COMMITMENT.  
PRESUMABLY BRAZINSKAS ENTERED VENEZUELA FAVORED BY THIS.  
AT THE TIME, FACT THAT THEY WERE SKYJACKERS WAS NOT A  
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PROMINENT ISSUE. NOW, HOWEVER, IT IS AND VENEZUELA  
TAKES A TOUGH ANTI-TERRORIST POSITION. VENEZUELAN PRESS  
REPORTED RECENTLY STATE DEPARTMENT'S SPOKESMAN'S  
COMMENTS THAT BRAZINSKAS MIGHT BE DEPORTED TO VENEZUELA.  
THOSE STORIES REPORTED THEIR SKYJACKING IN THE SOVIET UNION.  
THE REACTION OF VENEZUELA INTERPOL CHIEF, CESAR QUERO,  
TO THE STORY WHEN QUESTIONED BY THE PRESS WAS THAT THERE

WAS NO RECORD OF THEIR HAVING BEEN IN VENEZUELA AND  
THAT THERE WAS THEREFORE "NO VENEZUELAN CONNECTION" WITH  
THE BRAZINSKAS. THIS MAY HAVE REFLECTED THE FACT THAT  
GOV RECORDS AND INTRA-GOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION ARE BAD.  
IT MAY ALSO HAVE REFLECTED VENEZUELAN RELUCTANCE TO HAVE  
ANYTHING FURTHER TO DO WITH THEM IN THE LIGHT OF PUBLICITY  
ABOUT THEIR SKYJACKING AND THE FACT THAT U.S. PREPARED TO  
DEPORT THEM BECAUSE THEY COMMITTED SERIOUS NON-POLITICAL CRIME  
OF A TERRORSIT NATURE. IN SHORT, EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT,  
DESPITE VENEZUELAN TRADITION OF GRANTING ASYLUM, THE GOV'S  
STRONG ANTI-TERRORIST STANCE WILL ALSO COME INTO PLAY WHEN  
DECIDING WHETHER TO REACCEPT BRAZINSKAS; THUS OUTCOME  
IS NOT CLEAR. DEPARTMENT SHOULD BEAR THIS IN MIND  
AND CONSIDER OTHER COUNTRIES AS  
FALLBACKS FOR POSSIBLE DEPORTATION. VAKY  
UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** POSSIBLE DEPORTATION OF BOTH BRAZINSKAS TO VENEZUELA  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PINS, UR, US, VE  
**To:** MOSCOW  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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